

REVISED

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

FEBRUARY 10, 2004

On December 31, 2003, the Director of Health Services submitted a report in response to the Board's request regarding Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) Programs in Los Angeles County. The report addressed the status of the Los Angeles County Adult Day Health Care Planning Council, in view of State legislation passed in May 2003 (SBX 124) eliminating the statutory authority of county planning councils to review ADHC applications.

As the report describes, Adult Day Health Care programs provide a variety of State mandated medical and social services during daytime hours to disabled and elderly Medi-Cal recipients. The services, for which the centers are reimbursed at a rate of approximately \$70 per person, per day, are intended to help maintain the independent living status of many clients who would otherwise require care in a skilled nursing facility.

The report described the rapid proliferation of Los Angeles County ADHC programs, which grew from 37 ADHC centers in 1999 to 178 centers in 2003. The

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report also described for the first time the magnitude of Medi-Cal dollars flowing into these programs, which totaled \$158 million in Los Angeles County in fiscal year 2003/2004, or an average of nearly \$1 million per provider.

According to the report, ADHC centers are randomly distributed throughout the County. The areas served by these centers are not always those areas with the greatest need. There is also a concern about over-concentration in some communities. Planning Council attendees have also expressed concerns about the credentials of ADHC providers, recruitment practices and sub-standard service levels.

These factors underscore the need for a rational planning process in the certification of new ADHC programs, and for quality oversight of existing programs. The rapidly increasing flow of funds into ADHC centers underscores the need for appropriate fiscal oversight and accountability.

Unfortunately, the Los Angeles County Adult Day Health Care Planning Council, which, until recently, was tasked to review applications from potential ADHC providers and make recommendations to the California Department of Aging regarding these applications, has not had the legal or regulatory authority to effectively carry out these functions. According to the report, the Planning Council has had minimal impact on the proliferation of ADHC centers, since the State routinely approves new applications. Furthermore, August 31, 2003 was the sunset date of the Planning Council. Now that the State has repealed the legislative requirements for, and authority of, local Planning Councils, and centralized future oversight functions with State agencies, the continuation of Los Angeles County's Adult Day Health Care Planning Council cannot be justified.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors thank the members of the Los Angeles County Adult Day Health Care Planning Council and its staff for their dedicated service to improve the health and lives of older adults in Los Angeles County.

I ALSO MOVE that the Board instruct the Executive Officer to notify the Chairperson of the Adult Day Health Care Planning Council and all appropriate County Departments of the termination of County support for activities relating to the operation of the Adult Day Health Care Planning Council, including the provision of meeting space and staff support for Council meetings and activities, and approve introduction of ordinance disbanding the ADHC Planning Council.

I ALSO MOVE that that Board instruct the Director of Health Services to share its report with the Directors of the California Department of Health Services and California Department of Aging, and inform these agencies of the dissolution of Los Angeles County Adult Day Health Care Planning Council.

I ALSO MOVE that the Department of Health Services send a letter to the Governor urging that, as part of its Medi-Cal reform efforts, his Administration review the program administration, regulation, and financing of the Adult Day Health Care program.